

CLAIMS:

1. A discharge lamp (10) containing a radioactive gas for starting said lamp, characterized in that the radioactive gas is enclosed in a capsule, a wall of which is transparent to the radioactive radiation.

2. A discharge lamp (10) as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the capsule is positioned sufficiently close to an anode of the discharge lamp to facilitate the starting of the lamp, when said lamp is supplied with a direct current.

3. A discharge lamp (10) as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the capsule (20) is made of glass and in that the discharge lamp comprises a metal strip (21), which is soldered onto an electrode (12) and adapted to grip the capsule.

4. A discharge lamp (10) as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the capsule (30) is made of metal and is soldered onto an electrode (12).

5. A discharge lamp (10) as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the capsule is embedded into the closed pumping tube (23).

6. A starter of the glow type, which is designed for starting a discharge lamp, said starter containing a radioactive gas, and being characterized in that the radioactive gas which it contains is enclosed in a capsule, a wall of which is transparent to the radioactive radiation.